

required to register themselves with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). The list of 131 products includes various food preservatives and additives, milk powder, infant milk food, certain kinds of cement, household and similar electrical appliances, gas cylinders and multi-purpose dry batteries.

Release of telephone connections on the recommendations of M.Ps.

†*17. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the time limit for the installation of telephone connections recommended by Members of Parliament out of their quota;

(b) the number of telephones recommended by the Members of Rajya Sabha from Bihar, giving details separately, out of their quota which have been lying pending for connections for three, six, nine and twelve months respectively;

(c) the reasons for non installation of telephones and the action being taken by Government against the defaulting officers/employees; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government for providing telephone connections at the earliest in future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Out of turn Telephone connections recommended by Hon'ble MPs are installed within 30 days of date of sanction order subject to technical feasibility.

(b) There are 195 telephones lying pending for connection for three months, 37 telephones lying pending for six months, 22 telephones lying pending for nine months and 8 telephones lying pending for twelve months.

(c) and (d) These are lying pending due to technical non-feasibility such as non availability of underground cable pairs, exchange capacity and for other reasons such as commissioning of new exchanges in rural areas and cases of long distance connections.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[22 February, 2001]

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Hence, taking action against defaulting officers and employees does not arise as the reasons are of technical in nature. The telephones recommended by Hon'ble MPs are constantly being monitored by the DoT Headquarters periodically and reports are being obtained. The telephones lying pending can be installed after the areas become technically feasible.

Training on rain water harvesting

***18. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a training on rain water harvesting including rooftop rain for ground water recharge was arranged at six important towns all over the country in the first fortnight of February, 2001;

(b) whether such training would be arranged at small towns and villages where the rain water harvesting is actually done;

(c) if so, by when and the names thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) The Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Studies on Artificial Recharge to Ground Water. Rain water harvesting including rooftop rain water harvesting for ground water recharge is an integral part of this scheme. With a view to promoting the concept among public, the Central Ground Water Authority has been organising training programmes on rain water harvesting. Out of six towns identified for organising training programmes on rain water harvesting, the Central Ground Water Authority has already conducted training at four places viz. Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur and Kolkata. A programme is also being organised at Eluru in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh in the last week of February, 2001. The training programmes are also proposed to be organised at Bangalore, Chennai and Trivandrum during February—March, 2001. Such training programmes can also be arranged at small towns and villages, which will, however, depend upon a number of factors like the public